



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 2

290 BROADWAY

NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

SEP 21 2009

Steven Santoro
Assistant Executive Director
Capital Planning and Programs
NJ TRANSIT
One Penn Plaza East
Newark, New Jersey 07105-2245

Dear Mr. Santoro:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and NJ TRANSIT Environmental Assessment (EA) on the Proposed Pennsauken Junction Transit Center and Park and Ride Project. The proposed project involves the development of the Pennsauken Transit Center and Park and Ride. The new rail transit center would be located in Pennsauken, New Jersey at the crossing of the Atlantic City Rail Line (ACRL) and the RiverLINE, at the corner of Derosse and South Zimmerman Avenues. The proposed project entails the construction of two new interconnected stations: one has a single, 200-foot long, floor-level platform with a 60-foot long canopy along the RiverLINE (light rail), and the other has two 300-foot long, high-level, side platforms, and 100-foot long canopies along the ACRL. EPA believes the appropriate environmental impacts have been analyzed in the document.

EPA would like to use this opportunity to encourage NJ TRANSIT and project contractors to implement greener practices and techniques during the construction and operation of the project. For example, to meet electrical needs during construction and operation of the train stations, EPA recommends obtaining electricity from alternative and/ or renewable sources. The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities offers the newly developed Renewable Energy Incentive Program for 2009. The program provides incentives and support services needed for participants to build renewable energy projects using solar, wind and biopower technologies. In addition, the Department of Energy's "Green Power Network" (GPN) provides information and markets that can be used to supply alternative generated electricity. The following link identifies several suppliers of renewable energy in New Jersey.

http://apps3.eere.energy.gov/greenpower/buying/buying_power.shtml?state=NJ

ENERGY STAR Commercial Building Design has successfully delivered energy and cost savings across the United States and in 2007 avoided greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to those from 27 million cars, while saving businesses, organizations, and consumers about \$16 billion. The following website provides information about commercial buildings to help architects make informed decisions about energy efficiency during the design process. (See http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=new_bldg_design.new_bldg_design.)

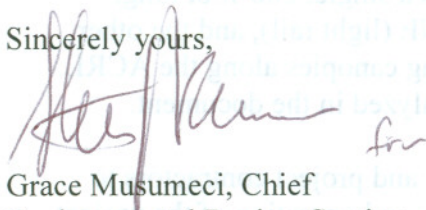
Low Impact Development (LID) is a greening approach to land development (or re-development) that works with nature to manage stormwater as close to its source as possible. LID employs principles such as preserving and recreating natural landscape features, minimizing effective imperviousness to create functional and appealing site drainage that treat stormwater as a resource rather than a waste product. There are many practices that have been used to adhere to these principles such as bioretention facilities, rain gardens, vegetated rooftops, rain barrels, and permeable pavements. (See <http://www.epa.gov/nps/lid/>.)

The WaterSense label indicates products and programs that are both high-performance and water efficient. It is estimated that WaterSense label products can save as much as 11,000 gallons of water per year. The website provides EPA-issued specifications that outline the requirements that products and programs should meet to earn the WaterSense label. (See <http://www.epa.gov/watersense/>.)

Finally, we ask that NJ TRANSIT encourage the developer to consider use of recycled industrial materials, such as coal ash in concrete, which can reduce the overall environmental footprint of the project. The environmental benefits include reduced greenhouse gas emissions, reduced land disposal requirements, and reduced utilization of virgin resources. Information on recycled materials can be found at www.epa.gov/osw/conserve/rrr/imr/indust.htm.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the EA. Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Charles Harewood of my staff at (212) 637-3753.

Sincerely yours,



Grace Musumeci, Chief
Environmental Review Section